



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Amendment

LCO No. 4000

HB0562504000HDO

Offered by:

REP. O'ROURKE, 32nd Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5625

File No. 324

Cal. No. 209

***"AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF MILITARY
DISCHARGE DOCUMENTS."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) (a) As used in this
4 section: (1) "Armed forces" means the Army, Navy, Marine Corps,
5 Coast Guard or Air Force of the United States; (2) "veteran" means any
6 person honorably discharged from, or released under honorable
7 conditions from active service or reserve status in the armed forces; (3)
8 "military discharge document" means a United States Department of
9 Defense form, including, but not limited to, a DD 214 form, or any
10 valid paper that evidences the service, discharge or retirement of a
11 veteran from the armed forces that contains personal information such
12 as a service number or Social Security number; (4) "person" means any
13 individual or entity, including but not limited to, a relative of a
14 veteran, a licensed funeral director or embalmer, an attorney-at-law, an
15 attorney-in-fact, an insurance company or a veterans advocate; and (5)

16 "public agency" or "agency" means a public agency, as defined in
17 section 1-200 of the general statutes, as amended.

18 (b) A veteran or designee may file a military discharge document
19 with the town clerk of the town in which the veteran resides or with
20 any other public agency.

21 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 55 of the general
22 statutes, or any provision of section 11-8 or 11-8a of the general
23 statutes, any military discharge document filed by or on behalf of a
24 veteran with a public agency on or after October 1, 2002, except a
25 military discharge document recorded on the land records of a
26 municipality, shall be retained by the agency separate and apart from
27 the other records of the agency. The contents of such document shall
28 be confidential for at least seventy-five years from the date the
29 document is filed with the public agency, except that:

30 (1) The information contained in the document shall be available to
31 the veteran, or a guardian of the person of the veteran or a guardian of
32 the estate of the veteran, at all times;

33 (2) Any information contained in such military discharge document
34 which is necessary to establish, or that aids in establishing, eligibility
35 for any local, state or federal benefit or program applied for by, or on
36 behalf of, the veteran, including, but not limited to, the name of the
37 veteran, the veteran's residential address, dates of qualifying active or
38 reserve military service, or military discharge status, shall be available
39 to the public at all times; and

40 (3) Any information contained in the document, other than the
41 information available under subdivision (2) of this subsection, shall be
42 available to (A) any person who may provide a benefit to, or acquire a
43 benefit for, the veteran or the estate of the veteran, provided the person
44 needs the information to provide the benefit and submits satisfactory
45 evidence of such need to the agency, (B) the State Librarian as required
46 for the performance of his or her duties, and (C) a genealogical society
47 incorporated or authorized by the Secretary of the State to do business

48 or conduct affairs in this state or a member of such genealogical
49 society.

50 (c) The provisions of this section concerning the maintenance and
51 recording of Department of Defense documents shall not apply to the
52 State Library Board or the State Librarian."

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>